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Dated: 3/9/04

Signature: Denise M. Lade  
(Denise M. Lade)

0712 Rec'd PCT/PTO 12 MAR 2004

Docket No.: 514012000100  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Jerry PELLETIER et al.

Application No.: 09/807,047

Confirmation No.: 2183

Filed: June 25, 2002

Art Unit: 1634

For: OLIGONUCLEOTIDE PRIMERS THAT  
DESTABILIZE NON-SPECIFIC DUPLEX  
FORMATION AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: F. Lu

**REQUEST FOR CORRECTED NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER  
35 USC 371 AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby requests that a corrected Notice of Acceptance of Application Under 35 USC 371 and 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 be issued in the above-identified patent application. The corrections to be made to the Notice of Acceptance of Application are as follows:

1. In Atty Docket No. field, please delete "Goudreau" and insert --514012000100--; and
2. In I.A. Filing Date field, please delete "11/06/1999" and insert --10/06/1999--.

Applicants enclose a copy of the initial Application Data Sheet (original being submitted under separate cover) reflecting updated Atty Docket No, address of inventors, and correct International Filing Date; copies of the marked-up Notice of Acceptance and a copy of the first page of PCT Publication WO 00/20630 (PCT/CA99/00933) showing the date of October 6, 1999 as the International Filing Date and October 7, 1998 as the Priority Date Claimed.

Applicant additionally requests that all pertinent U.S. Patent and Trademark Office records relating to the subject application be changed to reflect this correction.

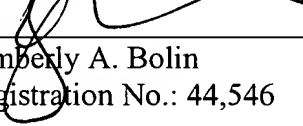
PA-868354

Applicants inadvertently listed an incorrect International Filing Date and Priority Date Claimed on the initial Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Filing Under 35 U.S.C. § 371 April 6, 2001. The correct dates should be OCTOBER 6, 1999 and OCTOBER 7, 1998, respectively. The typographical error is obvious due to the fact that the International Application Published under the Patent Cooperation Treaty clearly states the dates above. This error should not affect the filing in any way.

In the unlikely event that the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 514012000100. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: March 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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## Published

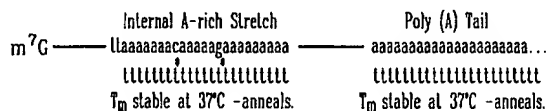
With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

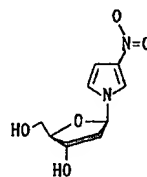
(54) Title: OLIGONUCLEOTIDE PRIMERS THAT DESTABILIZE NON-SPECIFIC DUPLEX FORMATION AND USES THEREOF

## (57) Abstract

The present invention relates to the demonstration that a modification of a homopolymeric stretch in an oligonucleotide, or primer, improves the discrimination for binding of such a modified oligonucleotide or primer to its complementary homopolymeric target sequence, as compared to a non-homopolymeric sequence. More specifically, an oligo d(T) primer having two of the thymine bases substituted by 3-nitropyrrole were used in a poly A primed cDNA synthesis experiment to demonstrate an improvement in discrimination between the priming of cDNA synthesis from *bona fide* poly A sequence as compared to internal A-rich sequences. The present invention relates to modifications of homopolymeric sequences in oligos, decreasing the ridging bonding capacity, in general, since other modifications, such as an oligo d(T) primer substituted with 2' deoxyinosine was also shown to improve the discrimination between the binding to a *bona fide* poly A tail as compared to A-rich sequences. The present invention thus relates to universal primers which reduce mispriming during cDNA library construction, thereby increasing the proportion of cDNA clones having been primed from the *bona fide* 3' poly A tail. The present invention further relates to the use of the discriminating oligonucleotides of the present invention in other methods such as mRNA purification, PCR-based detection methods and sequencing.



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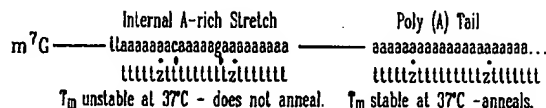


Z = 1-(2'-Deoxy-β-D-Ribofuranosyl)-  
3-Nitropyrrole

B

Oligo d(T)-Z Primer: 5'd(T)<sub>7</sub>-Z-d(T)<sub>3</sub>-Z-d(T)<sub>3</sub>3'

C



D